



## RAVALLI COUNTY ATTORNEY

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**TO:** Ravalli County Park Board  
**CC:** Commissioners ✓  
**FROM:** Alex Beal, Deputy *AB*  
**DATE:** July 11, 2007  
**RE:** Park Board authority to spend funds



I have been asked what the authority of the Park Board is to spend funds on projects within incorporated cities and towns. The relevant statutes to this question are:

**7-16-2402. Duties of county park district.** A county park district shall operate and maintain park and recreation land **within the district** and may conduct such programs relating to parks and recreation and make such improvements to such land as the county park district commissioners consider appropriate.

**7-16-2403. Territory of county park district.** A county park district may contain the entire territory of a county, a part of a county, or territory in more than one county. A county park district may include incorporated municipalities within a county.

**7-16-2423. Powers of county park district commission.** A county park district commission has all powers necessary for the acquisition, betterment, operation, maintenance, and administration of park and recreation land **within the territory of the district...**

As noted in § 7-16-2403, the territory of a county park district may include incorporated municipalities within a county. As noted in § 7-16-2423, the park board has all powers necessary to acquire, operate, and maintain parkland within the district. Therefore, if the incorporated cities and towns have not formed their own park district and are part of the general county park district, the park board may spend funds on projects in the city for any legitimate purpose.